(3) Regular prosecution of violators by issue of notices.

(4) Special mobile checking on National Highways.

(5) Prosecution through most modern equipments viz. Periscope Van, Radar Guns.

(6) Synchronization of Traffic signals in a Network.

(7) Random morning, evening, night and group checking for reckless driving.

(8) Distribution of Literature to the drivers.

(9) Special Road Safety Lectures to the drivers of DTC, Private buses under DTC operations and other operators in Delhi.

(10) Introduction of Bus Box, Yellow Box etc.

Water Transportation System

3803. SHRI SHANKAR DAYAL SINGH : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) what action has been taken by Government regarding water transportation system to ferry passengers and cargo through Ganga River as announced by Government long ago; and

(b) whether Government have dropped the idea, of such plan; if not, whether it is still under its consideration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) In order to facilitate Inland Water Transport System on the river Ganga the following actions have been taken by the Inland Waterways Authority of India:

(i) Navigation channel of 2.0m depth in Haldia-Farakka stretch and 1.5m depth in Farakka-Patna stretch is provided through regular river conservancy works. The channel is marked with temporary channel marks for the benefit of waterway users.

(ii) Terminal facilities for cargo handling have been provided at Haldia, Calcutta, Pakur, Farakka, Bhagalpur, Munghyr and Patna.

(iii) Construction of permanent general cargo berth at patna (Gaighat) has been sanctioned at an estimated cost of Rs. 4.90 crores.

Operation of ferry services for passengers/cargo is a State subject.

12.00 Noon

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Correcting the reply given in the Rajya Sabha on the 10th December, 1992 to Unstarred Question 2680 regarding import of Passport booklets.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Statement by Minister correcting answer to question.

SHRI R.L. BHATIA.

SHRI MD. SALIM (West Bengal) : Sir, I am on a point of order. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI KAMAL MORARKA : Sir, I am on a poit of order. (*Interruptions*) . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN : There is no supplementary. Nothing can be asked on this. I am calling the Minister to make . . . . (*Interruptions*) ...

SHRI MD. SALIM : The answer which he is going to correct ... (*Interruptions*) ...

MR. CHAIRMAN : You cannot ask anything on this. It is merely placed on the Table of the House. (*Interruptions*) . . .

SHRI MD. SALIM : Sir, in the List of Business it is mentioned that Shri R. L. Bhatia is going to make a correction to the answer given regarding the import of passport booklets, to Unstarred Question No. 2680. But the original question has nothing to do with the import of passport booklets. The original question is relating to the number of applications received for passport, the number of passports isssued and the number of passport booklets ... (*Interruptions*) ...

MR. CHAIRMAN : This correction is not on the issue of passport issued. (*Interruptions*) ...

SHRI MD. SALIM : Sir, it is in the List of Business. You please refer to it. (*Interruptions*) ... Today the Minister is going to lay two separate statements. (*Interruptions*) ...

MR. CHAIRMAN : He is making the first statement first. (*Interruptions*) ...

SHRI MD. SALIM : I am on this point, on this very point. (*Interruptions*) ...

SHRI KAMAL MORARKA (Rajasthan) : Please protect us, Sir. I am on a point of order. (*Interruptions*) ...

SHRI MD. SALIM : Please listen to me, Sir. (*Interruptions*) ...

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA (Bihar) : Sir, I am on a point of order Every day in this House the Ministers come and say that they ... (*Interruptions*) ... I want to ask you, how long will this go on? Every day there cannot be ... (*Interruptions*) ...

MR. CHAIRMAN : I cannot hear you. Now, will you sit down ? (*Interruptions*) ... If you will sit down and one person speaks I am hear you, (*Interruptions*) ... Please.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : My point of order is that every day Ministers come here to correct their answers given once, every day practically. How long will this go on why don't they do their homework? Why don't they come with the correct answers ? (*Interruptions*) ...

MR. CHAIRMAN : I will ask them. I have taken note of it. I would request all the Ministers to make their answers as error-proof as possible. (*Interruptions*) ...

SHRI MD. SALIM : This is not the only question. (*Interruptions*) ...

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH (West Bengal) : This question is different. In the List of Business it is mentioned that Shri R. L. Bhatia to lay on the Table a Statement correcting the reply given on 10th December, 1992 to Unstarred Question 2680 regarding import of passport booklets. His point is that the main question is not related to the import of passport booklets and this is wrong. (*Interruptions*) ...

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT : What are you correcting ? (*Interruptions*) ...

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH : What is he correcting ? (*Interruptions*) ...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Yes, I want to hear you.

SHRI MD. SALIM : Please, Sir. Actually in the List of Business it is mentioned regarding the import of passport booklets. But the original question which he had answerd on 10th December is about the number of applications received for passport, the number of passports issued and the number of passport booklets supplied by the Government of India Security Press. This has some relation to the statement which he is going to make correcting his reply which we had given to the Passports (Amendment) Bill, where a question was asked whether the Government is going to import passport booklets or not. He categorically denied that . The Government of India Security Press at Nasik is ready to supply the booklets. But their argument is that it is beyond their capacity and that is why they are going to import from foreign countries. Another Member also raised this point. He denied it categorically. Now he is coming after three months ... (*Interruptions*) ...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, will you please sit down ? "Import of Passport Books" was the general caption under which all you say is there. (*Interruptions*) ...

SHRI MD. SALIM : It has nothing to do with this (*Interruptions*) ...

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH : What is he going to correct ? Let us be clear. (*Interruptions*) ...

MR. CHAIRMAN : What exactly are you going to correct ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA) : Sir, I lay on the Table a statement (in English and Hindi) correcting the reply given in the Rajya Sabha on the 10th December, 1992 to Unstarred Question 2680 regarding import of passport booklets.

SHRI KAMAL MORARKA : Sir, he has not corrected. He has made another incorrect statement. (*Interruptions*) ...

SHRI MD. SALIM : Please allow me to read the original question. (*Interruptions*) ...

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA (West Bengal) : Mr. Chairman, Sir ...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let me explain. This question was with several parts. One was about the import of passport booklets and the other was about the number of applications received by the passport offices during 1990-91. He is correcting the latter part.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH : Which part?

MR. CHAIRMAN : The number of applications received by the passport offices during 1990-91 and from January 1992 to . . .

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH : Sir, we want to know whether he is correcting the question relating to import of passport booklets of not. (*Interruptions*) ...

SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM : (Andhra Pradesh) : Let the Minister clarify the position.

SHRI MD. SALIM : Sir, there is no word about the original question. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI KAMAL MORARKA : That question does not ... (*Interruptions*).

MR. CHAIRMAN : Will you allow the Minister to say something? If you have some doubts, the Minister wil clarify.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA) : Sir, the question is with regard to import of passport booklets. It was replied to the other day. It is not our policy to import any passport booklets. It was made clear.

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is not being corrected.

SHRI R.L. BHATIA : Yes. The other part which I am correcting is about the supply of books by the Nasik Press. This is the statement which I am laying on the Table of the House. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH : The word is 'supply', not 'import'. Both these word have different meanings. (*Interruptions*).

MR. CHAIRMAN : There is no confusion at all. The answer given about the import of passport booklets is not being corrected. One other part of the question is being corrected. What is the confusion?

SHRI MD. SALIM : Sir, the question is ... (*Interruptions*).

SHRI M.M. JACOB (Kerala) : Sir, the answer is very clear.

SHRI KAMAL MORARKA : Sir the Minister is confused. What he said just now is incorrect.

SHRI R.L. BHATIA : It has already been stated in this House. (*Interruptions*). I am not confused. You are confused. (*Interruptions*).

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Minister has said, no import of passport booklets has taken place. He is not correcting that (*Interruptions*).

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH : Sir, the word 'supply' and 'import' have different meanings. (*Interruptions*).

MR. CHAIRMAN : This is not the time to ask supplementaries. Now, Papars to be Laid on the Table.